UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social
Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/CN.7/1997/4/Add.3
11 March 1997

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS
Fortieth session
Vienna, 18-27 March 1997
Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

ILLICIT DRUG TRAFFIC AND SUPPLY, INCLUDING REPORTS OF SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE COMMISSION

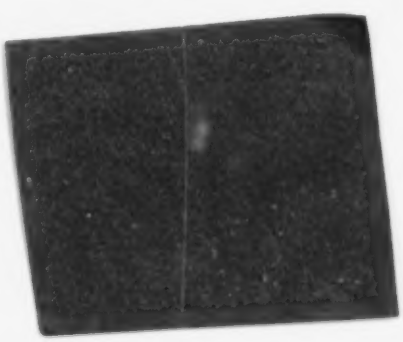
World situation with regard to illicit drug trafficking

Report of the Secretariat

Addendum

POVERTY ERADICATION

I. At its 1996 coordination segment, the Economic and Social Council adopted agreed conclusions 1996/1 on coordination of the United Nations system activities for poverty eradication. In a letter dated 5 September 1996 (see annex), the President of the Council conveyed those agreed conclusions to the Chairman of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its thirty-ninth session. The President noted that the Council had examined the role of the Commission in view of the close connection between poverty and some aspects of the drug problem, and because the World Summit for Social Development, held at Copenhagen from 6 to 12 March 1995, had adopted a number of recommendations on drugs. In that connection, he drew particular attention to paragraph 48 of the agreed conclusions.



*E/CN.7/1997/1.

V.97-21455T

2. Paragraph 48 states:

> "The Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice should provide appropriate inputs into the consideration of poverty-related issues by the Commission for Social Development, notably in its discussion of social integration and participation of all people, scheduled for 1998, and into other relevant functional commissions as appropriate."

3. The President also drew attention to paragraphs 36 and 37 of the agreed conclusions, which read as follows:

> "36. The Economic and Social Council is the central intergovernmental mechanism for coordinating integrated and comprehensive activities of the United Nations system in the field of poverty eradication. It will focus on the provision of comprehensive guidelines and coordination of the work of other organs to ensure a multidimensional, integrated and gender-sensitive approach to poverty eradication in accordance with, *inter alia*, the provisions of the Programme of Action of the World Summit for Social Development, the Platform for Action, adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women, and General Assembly resolution 50/227. In its consideration of cross-cutting elements common to major international conferences, and its overall review of the implementation of the programme of action of a United Nations conference, the Council will give due priority to poverty eradication.
>
> "37. The Council will carry out an overall review of the theme of poverty eradication at a date to be determined, as a contribution to the review of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development. In accordance with their programmes of work as approved by the Council, the relevant functional commissions should, in 1999-2000, prepare technical and focused inputs for the Council's overall review of poverty eradication."

4. The Secretary-General is required to submit a report to the Council at its 1997 session on the implementation of the agreed conclusions. Any action taken by the Commission to implement the relevant agreed conclusions should be included in that report.

5. In view of the foregoing, the Commission may wish to identify appropriate action to implement the relevant agreed conclusions.

6. To assist the Commission in its consideration of appropriate action, the complete text of the agreed conclusions is before the Commission in all the official languages of the United Nations (E/CN.7/1997/CRP.11).

Annex

LETTER DATED 5 SEPTEMBER 1996 FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL ADDRESSED TO THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION ON NARCOTIC DRUGS AT ITS THIRTY-NINTH SESSION

I would like to convey to you the agreed conclusions adopted by the Economic and Social Council at its 1996 coordination segment on the coordination of the United Nations system activities for poverty eradication.

As reflected in part III of the agreed conclusions, the Council, at this segment, took a number of steps to harmonize the intergovernmental consideration of poverty eradication and to ensure that the different dimensions of poverty are covered in a complementary way by its functional commissions and by the Council itself, also taking into account other fora, in particular policy-making organs of specialized agencies.

The Council concluded that its functional commissions should focus on the linkages between their field of competence and poverty eradication, and provided guidance on how its functional commissions should address cross-cutting themes of major recent conferences that relate to poverty eradication. The Council invited its commissions to draw upon the work of others on aspects which do not correspond to core issues for which they have the main responsibility, and, in some cases, to provide inputs to one another.

In view of the close connection between poverty and some aspects of the drug problem, and because the World Summit for Social Development contained a number of recommendations on drugs, the Council also examined the role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs. I would like to draw your attention in particular to paragraph 48 which addresses the role of the Commission and its contribution to the work of other commissions on poverty and related social issues.

Furthermore, the Council decided that it will carry out a review of the theme of poverty eradication, as a contribution to the review of the World Summit for Social Development, with inputs from the functional commissions (paragraphs 36 and 37). The dates of this examination are yet to be determined by the Council.

Some recommendations in part I of the agreed conclusions on coordinated United Nations support and availability of resources at the field level, as well as in part II on mainstreaming the gender perspective in United Nations poverty eradication activities are also of relevance to the work of your Commission.

I would be very grateful if you could draw the attention of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to these agreed conclusions. I am confident that the Commission, in its future work, will take into account the guidance given by the Council.

Since the Secretary-General is required to submit a report to the Council at its next session on the implementation of these agreed conclusions, I would be very grateful if you could provide the Secretary-General with information on action taken by the Commission to implement the agreed conclusions, before the next session of the Council.

I wish you success in the preparation of the forthcoming session of the Commission.

(*signed*) Jean-Marie Kacou Gervais